User Administration Report

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User Administrator

User Statistics

In FY05, there were 2,256 users from academia, government, industry, and other institutions (see Figure) who performed experiments at the NSLS.

Consistent with past years, more than a third were first-time users. The majority of our users come from the materials and life sciences arenas. Slight increases were noticed in medical applications and in the biological and life sciences. The numbers of users in the fields of chemistry and engineering decreased slightly. Other areas remained fairly stable.



Education and employment levels vary. Scientists, faculty members, or other professionals make up the largest user population at 43%. Graduate students account for 39% and post-docs make up 14%. Users that are between 30 and 39 years of age and are male are the most numerous. In FY05, 410 unique academic, government, non-government laboratory, and industrial institutions sent users to the NSLS. Nearly 260 were academic institutions.

Contributing Users

A new mode of access to beam time became available in FY05. Proposals by contributing users (CUs), who are individuals or groups who carry out research at facility beamlines and also contribute to their operation, were approved.

PASS System

The NSLS Proposal Allocation Safety and Scheduling (PASS) System, a web-based resource for proposal submissions, feasibility and peer review, allocation and scheduling of beam time, safety review, and maintenance of beam-



The User Administration Group (top, from left) Mary Anne Corwin and Gretchen Cisco, (bottom, from left) Liz Flynn and Mercy Baez.

line information received several enhancements in FY05. Managers of crystallography data were provided with automated feeds to manage information more efficiently. Proprietary proposals and an automated billing system for proprietary charges were incorporated. User interface changes were made to provide more information to PASS users and to simplify the tasks of copying existing proposal and safety approval forms. The development of a component for requesting rapid access to beam time has been started. Plans for FY06 include completing of rapid access proposals, including contributing user access, and expanding the beam time scheduling component.

Safety Compliance

Due to two measures implemented in the prior fiscal year, non-compliances related to safety and security by users accessing the experimental floor were nearly eliminated in FY05. The measures involved encoding badges for timed access and the inclusion of various user expiration dates (e.g., training, badge, etc.) on the safety approval form.

Final Comments

As many of you know, I recently accepted the position of NSLS Training Coordinator in the ESH&Q Division, following Eva Rothman's footsteps again! So, this will be my last report. I've learned so much through all the interactions that become part of the regular routine of a user administrator. The roles are complex, and often challenging

and demanding. I'm grateful for having had the opportunity to work in all these areas. My experience will have many benefits in carrying out my new responsibilities and has provided me with a strong foundation for my new position. As I leave this position, one thing is evident: NSLS User Administration staff have always been very productive, handling hefty workloads and challenges in a prompt, expert, and courteous manner. Please welcome our new User Administrator, Kathleen Nasta (formerly the BNL Science Museum Program Coordinator), as your liasion between the NSLS and the user community. Your support will promote a smooth transition for the NSLS and our users.



